13

- 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heating layer extends across substantially the entire width of the open continuous feed.
- 3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical conductor members are adapted to operate as busbars at terminal points along the edges of the heating element.
- **4**. A method as claimed in claim **1**, wherein the electrical conductor members are deposited to extend continuously along the sides of the length of the continuous open wallboard feed.
- 5. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method includes the step of depositing at least one transverse conductor member, suitable for allowing termination of the heating panel at an opposed side of the heating panel from the heating element(s), along the length of the continuous open wallboard feed.
- 6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the transverse conductor member is at least partially incorporated in the settable slurry layer.
- 7. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the transverse conductor member is set inside the settable slurry layer.
- **8**. A method as claimed in claim **1**, wherein the method includes sizing the closed wallboard feed by forcing the closed wallboard feed through a forming plate section.
- **9**. A method as claimed in claim **1**, wherein the electrical conductor member is prefabricated as a continuous sheet of ²⁵ at least partially conductive material.
- 10. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one selected from the first sheet of material and second sheet of material are composed of material that is at least partially porous to one or more selected from water vapour and ³⁰ liquid.
- 11. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one or more selected from the first sheet of material and second sheet of material are composed of paper.
- 12. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrical ³⁵ conductor members are composed of one or more selected from a metal or metallic alloy;
 - a semi-conductor material; and carbon fibre.
- 13. A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the semi- 40 conductor material is doped.
- **14.** A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heating layer is prefabricated in an elongate sheet formation.
- **15**. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the heating element is configured as a mesh comprising both conductive ⁴⁵ and non-conductive members.

14

- 16. A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the conductive and non-conductive members are elongate, and wherein the heating element is arranged with the non-conductive members extending substantially parallel to the pair of electrical conductors and the conductive members extending across the continuous open feed between the pair of electrical conductors.
- 17. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein one or more selected from the heating layer, first sheet of material and the second sheet of material is fed from a roll.
- 18. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the method further includes the steps of stacking several similar cut heating panels in a heated environment to allow excess water to evaporate from the settable gypsum slurry.
- 19. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the method further includes the step of finishing at least one edge of the set heating panels.
- ${\bf 20}.$ A rigid heating panel made by the method as claimed $_{20}\,$ in claim ${\bf 1}.$
 - 21. A rigid and flat heating panel comprising a laminated assembly of (i) a core layer of a set gypsum slurry material within which, and prior to setting of the settable slurry, a flexible heating layer comprising a heating element of a sheet mesh construction and a pair of electrical conductor members, said electrical conductor members being relatively more conductive than the heating element, and arranged to extend continuously along either side of the heating panel, has been embedded to form, upon setting of said gypsum slurry, a set slurry material and heating layer matrix, and (ii) a first outer layer of sheet material disposed on a first major face of the set slurry material, and (iii) a second outer layer of sheet material disposed on a major face, opposite to said first major face, of said set slurry material.
 - 22. A heating panel as claimed in claim 21 wherein the heating element is configured as a mesh comprising both conductive and non-conductive members.
 - 23. A heating panel as claimed in claim 22, wherein the conductive and non-conductive members are elongate, and wherein the heating element is arranged with the non-conductive members extending substantially parallel to the pair of electrical conductors, and the conductive members extending across the panel between the pair of electrical conductors.

* * * * *